

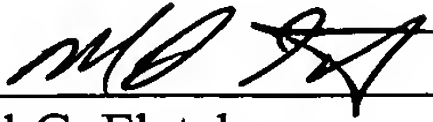
REMARKS

At the time the Official Action was mailed, claims 1-24 were pending in the present application. In the Official Action, the Examiner allowed claims 19-24, rejected claims 1-3, 6-12 and 15-18, and the Examiner objected to claims 4, 5, 13 and 14. Applicants thank the Examiner for allowance of claims 19-24. In view of the allowable subject matter, Applicants have chosen to place the application in condition for allowance by amending claim 1 to include the recitations of claim 4 and by amending claim 10 to include the recitations of claim 13. Accordingly, claims 4 and 13 have been cancelled and claims 5 and 14 have been amended to recite proper dependencies. Based on the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, and in view of the present amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-3, 5-12, and 14-24 are currently in condition for allowance.

It should be noted that Applicants do not agree with the Examiner's rejections and that these amendments have been made without prejudice as Applicants intend to file a continuing application to pursue the rejected claims and address the Examiner's rejections. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 10, 2005



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